Moegis Lee Keyes -

MINUTES

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OF THE
ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

EIGHTEENTH ANNIVERSARY

OF THE

PILGRIM'S-REST ASSOCIATION

OF

OLD SCHOOL UNITED BAPTISTS,

HELD WITH

FIVE MILE CHURCH,

GREENE COUNTY, ALA.

COMMENCING ON FRIDAY PRECEDING THE FIRST

LORD'S DAY IN OCTOBER, 1854.

EUTAW:
WHIG OFFICE PRINT.

1854.

MINUTES.

Met according to previous appointment, the Introductory Sermon delivered by Eld. Thomas West, from Ephesians 2d chapter, latter clause of the 5th verse, "For by grace are ye saved."

Article 1st. Called, and read letters from the different churches and enrolled the names of the delegates as the table will show.

2 Called for the reading of the articles of faith Rules of decorum &c.

3. Went into a choice of Moderator and Clerk, and chose Eld. Thos. West Moderator, Jesse Hill Clerk.

4. Received from Zion's-rest a bundle of minutes by the hands of Bro's. W. H. Crawford, John P. May and Brethren Thos. Townsand and Joshua Lewis. From the Buttahatchey, a letter and minutes by Bro. T. J. Morris.

5 Opened a door for the reception of new churches.

6 Appointed a committee of arrangements. Brethren Simon Muny, Green W. Wilder, Abel Strickland, with the moderator and clerk. A committee on Finance, Brethren Calvin J. West and Dersey Daniel. Committee to examine the circular letter, Brethren Green W. Wilder, Thos. B. Edmiston and Abel Strickland.

7 Then adjourned until to-morrow morning half-past nine o'clock, A. M.

8th. Saturday morning September 30th 1854.

9th. Called for the report of Committee on arrangements. The Committee reported that we take up the Items as they stand on the last year's minutes; report received and the committee discharged.

The committee on Finance reported as follows :

Received from the Churches, : : : : :	$205
Remaining in hand from last year, : : : : :	20
TOTAL, : : : : : : : : :	$225

Committee discharged.

10th. Committee to examine the circular letter reported; the circular read, received, and ordered to be printed with the present minutes. Circular written in default of Eld. Jones Malone.

11th. Motion and seconded, that we have 250 copies of minutes printed, reserving 50 for correspondence, and that the Clerk be allowed eight dollars for superintending the printing of the minutes last year.

12th. Motion and seconded that our next association be held with Bethany church commencing Saturday before the first Lord's day in October 1855, five miles East of Vienna, Pickens county, Ala. on the Tuscaloosa road near Sipsey river.

13th. Appointed corresponding messengers to sister Associations To the Tombigbee, Bro. Calvin, J. West, to Zions-rest brethren Eld. Thos. West, Dempsey Daniel, Jesse Hill, Thos. B. Edmiston, to Buttahatchey, Zachariah Coward and E. T. Coward.

14th. Appointed Brethren to write corresponding letters to sister associations, Eld. Thos. West to Tombigbee, Calvin, J. West to Zion-rest, Jesse Hill to Buttahatchey.

15th. Motion and seconded that the clerk send the minutes to each church at their nearest post office.

16th. Opened a door for promiscuous busines.

17th. Motion and seconded that the churches composing this association be requested at the next session of this association to send the number seperate, of her white male members, females also, book consolidated.

18th. Appointed union meetings, 1st district, Liberty Church, Pickens county, Ala., Friday before the first Sabbath in July next— 2nd district, Bethlehem church, Greene county Ala., near Eutaw, Friday before the third Sabbath in August next.

19th. Agreed that the moderator appoint the preaching Brethren Wm. Allen, Wm. H. Crawford. John P. May, to occupy the stand on the Sabbath, and that they arrange the order of preaching themselves.

20th. Agreed that Eld. Thos. West be appointed to preach the next Introductory sermon and Elder Jones Malone his alternate.

21st. Agreed that Bro. Richard F. Ellis, write the circular letter to be presented to the association for its inspection.

22nd. Agreed that the moderator dismiss by returning the thanks of the association to brethren and friends of the vicinity of Five Mile Church.

3rd. The Brethren met the congregation on the Sabbath and prached the gospel in purity, which seemed to have the desired effect. We hope it may be as the bread that was cast upon the waters which was gathered many days hence. Then dismissed in order.

JESSE HILL, Clerk. THOMAS WEST, Moderator.

NOTE.—*Paid for Printing Minutes*, $12,75.

STATE OF THE CHURCHES.

CHURCHES.	NAMES OF DELIGATES.	Received by Baptism.	Received by Letter.	Dismissed by Letter.	Received by Recantation	Restored.	Excluded.	Dead.	Total.	Contribution.	Am't sent for Minutes.	Communion Seasons.	By whom Supplied.	Post Offices.
Pilgrims-rest.	Thos. West, R. B. Petty,* C. J. West,	1	1	1			1	1	24	3,00	1,50	May and Oct.	D. Duncan,	Pick'ville, Pickens, County.
Zion	Z. Coward, A, W. Coward,* E. T. Coward,					7			10	1,00	50		Nabors.	Gordo, Pickens County.
Bethany,	G. W. Wilder, D. Daniel, O. S. Harris,*							1	42	2,00	1,00	May and Sept.	T. West,	Vienna, Pickens County.
Liberty,	Abel Strickland, David Williams,	4							23			May and Sept.	"	Pleasant Grove Pickens Co.
Sarepta,	P. Carver, E. Coulson, R. Kent.*					1		2	28	2,00	1,00	May and Oct.	R. Kent,	Hintons' Grove, Pickens Co.
Salem,	Not Represented,											May and Oct.	"	Carrollton, Pickens County.
Rehoboth,	S. Murphy, J. Hill, T. Colvin,*			1					52	5,00	1,50	May and Sept.	"	Clinton, Greene County.
Bethlehem,	Richard F. Ellis,	1	1	1				1	68			May and Oct.	"	Eutaw, Greene County.
Bethel,	Allen D Colvin,			1				1	10			May and Oct.	"	Springfield. Greene Co.
Five-Mile,	T. B.Edmiston, P. Henry, R. S Meeks,	7						7	60	3,00	1,50	May and Aug.	"	New'pect, G.Co.
Hepseby,	Not Represented,												J. Malone,	Choctaw Agency O. Co, Miss.

CIRCULAR ADDRESS.

Very dear and well esteemed Brethren in the Lord. According to previous appointment you will expect a circular address from us.

Many circulars have been written, and various subjects chosen.—And I will offer you a few thoughts on a passage of scripture that may be found in St. John 6th Chapter and 46th verse reading thus, 'No man can come to me, except the father which hath sent me, draw him; and I will raise him up at the last day." It will be seen in the previous verses of this chapter, that those persons spoken to by our Savior were professors of a kind of animal religion, such as all men in a state of nature are. They professed a great desire apparently to understand the miracles that were then wrought by the Lord Jsus Christ in feeding the multitude with the loaves and fishes, and at the same time professing a great desire to come unto him. But Jsus knowing the wickedness of their hearts, as well before as afterwards told them, that ye seek me not because of the miracles, but because of the loaves and fishes, that ye may eat and be filled.—Now God knew all things and that from the beginning, he knew they were blinded by the God of this world, those whose God are their belly. God saw and well knew that such persons were not in a fit situation to come to him. We will give a few thoughts in a brief manner, how we believe men and women in a state of nature, or, dead in trespasses and sins, having eyes and see not, ears and hear not, and a heart, and with it cannot understand, &c., are quickened and made alive, and enabled to come or be drawn unto God. They must become to hate their sinful practices, and change their former course of life, and to do this. they must be filled to the first love, by the quickning influences of Gods holy Spirit shining into the dead faculties of their souls, and enable them to see that the course they are going will not lead them to see the course they are going, will

not lead them to God. They are taught and lead on in this way by the spirit of God, until they are enabled to put their confidence in God, and then they become willing to be led about by him, and come to him in his own way, when in this situation, the creature is willing to be brought to God on the terms of the Gospel, for he is brought to see that he is God and besides him there is none other.—Now a creature in this situation is a fit subject to be drawn to God.—And Jesus Christ will raise them up at the last day. For he agree in covenant contract and that in eternity to save his people and he wi do it and raise them up at the last day. Many more things might b said on this all important subject, but I shall desist for the presen May the God of all grace bless you, and save you with an everlastin salvation is the prayer of your unworthy dust.

JESSE HILL.